

Having lived in Whittier for over 30 years, Mr. Calleros has volunteered his time at Lambert Little League, Gunn Park (now called Adventure Park), California High School, and St. Gregory the Great Parish. His greatest passion is coaching baseball. Through coaching, Mr. Calleros has provided instruction, mentoring, and guidance to hundreds, if not thousands of youth from Whittier, La Mirada, and other surrounding areas of the 39th Congressional District.

Professionally, Mr. Calleros distinguished himself within the Southern California Gas Company. He began his career as a field technician with his shiny, white Gas Company pick-up truck. Having excelled as a technician, he moved on to become a meter-reader, a field service representative, a measurement analyst, and eventually a measurement technologies expert. The latter two jobs were completed as a member of the management team. It was rare for someone who started out in meter reading to ascend to management, but Mr. Calleros did, paving the way for others to do the same. He continually gave his coworkers inspiration and valuable leadership, which enabled them to succeed.

Mr. Calleros has generously offered support to his family, his baseball players, his neighbors, his colleagues, and his friends. He has dedicated his entire professional career to one organization to which he remained loyal. I am pleased to commend and thank him for his excellent work and look forward to many more years of his service to the community.

CONGRATULATING THE IRAQI PEOPLE ON AN HISTORIC ELECTION

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the people of Iraq for going to the polls this weekend to participate in their first free elections in over 50 years. In many cases, Iraqis defied death threats to take another significant step toward rebuilding their country and reconstituting a society built on democracy. The huge number of people who voted is clear evidence of the historic transformation ongoing in Iraq. Their actions serve as a signal to the United States and to the world that Iraqis are anxious to embrace freedom.

As independent accounts have verified, the turnout for Iraq's elections surpassed all expectations. But let it not be called a surprise, Mr. Speaker, that the people of this country, no longer living under a cloud of fear, are eager to freely elect a leader to lead a free Iraq.

As President Bush has said, it was the Iraqi people who made this election a resounding success. But it also bears mentioning that these elections would not have been possible without the leadership of President Bush. It also bears mentioning that these elections would not have occurred had it not been for the will of enlightened countries that allied with us in our war on terrorism. From the first day of the invasion, through the toppling of a tyrant, to today, these countries stand firm in their commitment to fight terrorism.

I commend the Iraqi people for their strength and willingness to embrace freedom.

I know many have died in making this day possible and we mourn those we have lost. Though this election is just one step, it is representative of the Iraqi commitment to a brighter future, a future that I believe, Mr. Speaker, is based on peace and freedom.

COMMENDING COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR MARKING 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, on this tragic anniversary, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 39, which commends countries and organizations for marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi Concentration Camp at Auschwitz.

On January 27, 1945, the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz, including Birkenau and other related camps near the Polish city of Oswiecim, was liberated by elements of the Soviet Army. According to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, at a minimum, 1,300,000 people were deported to Auschwitz between 1940 and 1945, and at least 1,100,000 were murdered at that camp. That fateful day marked the end of the horror at Auschwitz.

In total, an estimated 6,000,000 Jews, more than 60 percent of the pre-World War II Jewish population of Europe, were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators at Auschwitz and elsewhere in Europe. Also, hundreds of thousands of civilians from many nationalities, all of whom the Nazis considered "undesirable," perished at Auschwitz and other concentration camps throughout Europe.

It is important that the United Nations General Assembly, in response to a resolution proposed by Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Russia, the United States, and the European Union, recently convened its first-ever special session marking the liberation of Auschwitz and other concentration camps. Several countries around the globe are taking part in remembrance ceremonies and honoring the victims of Auschwitz and the Holocaust. We must never forget the tragic events that led up to the Holocaust and we must urge all countries and all peoples to strengthen their efforts to fight against racism, anti-Semitism and intolerance around the globe. If we do not remain committed to teaching the lessons of the Holocaust for future generations, then history will be doomed to repeat itself.

CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ON THEIR 90TH BIRTHDAY—THE VISION AND VOICE OF WOMEN IN MEDICINE

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest congratulations to

the American Medical Women's Association, AMWA, on the occasion of its 90th birthday year celebration.

Throughout this century, AMWA has been indefatigable in its efforts to advance women in medicine and to promote women's health. As the leading multidisciplinary association of women in medicine in our country, AMWA has encouraged and honored excellence in the fields of medicine, healthcare and science through a wide array of scholarships, grants, and awards, as well as diverse educational programs for physicians, medical students and the general public.

AMWA's Local Legends program is a partnership with the National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine and the NIH Office of Women's Health Research. This past year, I was fortunate enough to nominate Dr. Marian E. Melish and Dr. Cynthia Goto, two outstanding physicians from the state of Hawaii. Dr. Melish is a Professor of Pediatrics, Tropical Medicine and Medical Microbiology at the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawaii. She is also Chief of the Infectious Disease Division of the Department of Pediatrics and Medical Director of Infection Control at the Kapiolani Medical Center. Dr. Goto is a second generation OB-GYN practitioner. Her father, Dr. George Goto, was the champion of women's reproductive rights in the nation and in Hawaii in the 1960s. Dr. Cynthia Goto continues that tradition through her work to connect Hawaii's public health services with clinical care for women and infants. Her efforts have resulted in an ongoing collaboration between Hawaii's OB-GYNs, the Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition and the March of Dimes.

AMWA has distinguished itself through support of numerous charitable programs, particularly focusing on the needs of disproportionately disadvantaged women and their families. For 75 years, AMWA's American Women's Hospitals Service, AWHS, clinics in the U.S. and abroad have provided desperately needed care to the medically underserved. In addition, hundreds of medical students and residents have received remarkable healthcare training in these and other remote clinics worldwide through AMWA's AWHS travel stipends.

AMWA's advocacy on behalf of women's health and research, especially bringing underaddressed concerns to the national agenda, has made AMWA a leading voice for the care of women and their children. Again, I wish to commend and congratulate AMWA for making a positive and enduring contribution to the healthcare of the communities and our country.

GLEN PARK ELEMENTARY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Glen Park Elementary, located in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for its recognition as a 2003–2004 Blue Ribbon School.

I congratulate Glen Park Elementary, under the leadership of Principal Dr. Cassandra Morris-Surles, for this outstanding achievement. Glen Park Elementary is only one, of fifteen,

Texas schools, and 250 schools nationwide, honored as a "No Child Left Behind" Blue Ribbon School.

No Child Left Behind is the landmark education reform law designed to change the culture of America's schools by closing the achievement gap, offering more flexibility, giving parents more options and teaching students based on what works. Foremost among the four key principles is an insistence on stronger accountability for results.

As we work to improve our education system, it is important that we have accurate information about the performance of our schools and our ability to teach our students. With that information, we need to praise these schools, teachers and administrations which meet the high standards of "No Child Left Behind."

Glen Park Elementary is a stellar example for Texas school and is a strong example for all American schools. Glen Park has high scholastics marks and continues to be a premier school in our community.

I am proud of the education system in Texas; especially our involved parents and teachers at Glen Park Elementary who commit their lives and time to fostering growth in their students. Congratulations to the student, parents, teachers and administration at Glen Park Elementary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, January 25, I was unable to be present during consideration of H. Con. Res. 16, Congratulating the people of the Ukraine and Victor Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine and his commitment to democracy and reform (rollcall 8); and H. Res. 39, Commending Countries and Organizations for Marking the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz and Urging a Strengthening of the Fight Against Racism, Intolerance, Bigotry, Prejudice, Discrimination and Anti-Semitism (rollcall 9). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both measures.

ARTICLE ABOUT THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ROBERT T. MATSUI

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of the House to a wonderfully written column by Norman Ornstein about the memory of our colleague, the Honorable Robert T. Matsui, who passed away on January 1. Mr. Ornstein's column, published in the January 26 edition of Roll Call, captured the very essence of Bob's spirit and reminded us why we all will miss him so much—because he was an "all-around great guy" whose warmth, wit and bipartisanship will live on and inspire future leaders in this chamber to serve with the same kind of grace and style that Bob possessed in spades.

[From Roll Call, Jan. 26, 2005]

BOB MATSUI: WONK, FIGHTER, AND ALL-AROUND GREAT GUY

(By Norman Ornstein)

Some years ago, I had the good fortune (or misfortune) of appearing on the cover of a now-defunct glossy magazine called Washington Dossier, wearing a fancy tuxedo while dancing with an elegant model (who was about 6 inches taller than me).

A couple of weeks later, I got a call from the office of Rep. Bob Matsui (D-Calif.) asking me to come by for a meeting on some issue he was dealing with on the Ways and Means Committee. I dutifully showed up, to find that it was a pretext for Bob to give me a nicely framed picture with the Dossier cover and the inside picture.

I treasure that picture—but I treasure even more the photograph I received later. It was taken by one of Bob's staffers, showing Matsui giving me the gift, beaming about the surprise he'd managed to pull off.

That was vintage Bob Matsui: a delight in surprising one of his friends, a warmth and goodness that is rare in any group of people but even rarer at the top reaches of rough-and-tumble politics. Weeks after the fact, I am still having trouble coming to grips with the reality that he is gone.

I first met Bob and his wife, Doris, soon after he was elected to the House in 1978. Bob drew people to him because he was so warm, open, unpretentious and bright. I shared with him a love of baseball and of politics. He and Doris and my wife and I became good friends, sharing news of our kids growing up, dissecting current events, talking about the Orioles and sometimes going to games.

Unlike many people in elite levels of politics, television, law or business, Bob was not self-absorbed. The line, "But enough about me. What do you think of me?" applies: to many (as each of us could name) but it did not apply to him. He was genuinely interested in others, and took genuine delight in their achievements.

Through the years, I watched Bob up close as his career in Congress soared. He first shot to national prominence when he led the effort to get reparations for the Japanese-Americans who had been forced into internment camps during World War II. Of course, he had been among them, spending the first few years of his life in such a camp. He and his House colleague Norm Mineta (D-Calif.) handled that issue with determination and drive—but without bitterness or recrimination. The process became a template for reconciliation. It also showed Bob as a proud American, not cynical or bitter but simply wanting to see his country make amends for a huge mistake.

That alone would have made a terrific career. But Bob made his mark in so many more areas. In trade, he was a model bipartisan, willing often to take on his own party as he fought for the free-trade ideals he believed in, looking to find common ground with allies such as Reps. Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.) and David Dreier (R-Calif.), and looking as well to find common ground on issues such as labor and environmental standards as a way of broadening the free-trade coalition. (He was disappointed to find that the current House was not interested in broadening coalitions beyond the majority of the majority party.)

Bob became a world-class expert on welfare and Social Security. He was a policy wonk who loved politics, a gentle man who had a fierce attachment to his values and policy views, a partisan who also wanted to work with those across the aisle, and a man who could use ferocious rhetoric to defend the downtrodden but who seemed to have no enemies, even among those he excoriated.

I have had the privilege of having many members of the House and Senate as friends, spanning both parties and all viewpoints. They have included many currently serving or recently retired, along with such now-deceased leaders as Speaker Tip O'Neill (D-Mass.) and House Minority Leader John Rhodes (R-Ariz.), and superstars of public service like Rep. Barber Conable (R-N.Y.) and Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.).

I think what all my friends in Congress have shared is their love and respect for the institution, their joy of serving, and their delight in politics. That was true, in spades, of Bob. He embodied all that is right about politics and the legislative process, all that is great about America. As partisan as he grew in the ever-more-partisan House, he refused to divide the world into friends and enemies. He carried himself with class. His dismay with the House led him to take the brutal job as chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which he did dutifully and well over the past two years, without any of the sleaze now so common in elections.

During the beautiful memorial service for him in Statuary Hall, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.) provided the take-home phrase: She hoped that during the coming years, as we face nasty and brutish partisan politics and debate, that we could pause from time to time for a "Matsui Moment."

Everybody in the hall understood what she meant, including Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), who had the class to allow the memorial service to be held in that hallowed and rarely used space. Despite the tension of recent years, the Speaker noted that Bob Matsui never failed to come across the aisle to say hello to him, to be pleasant and forthcoming. I hope he, and his colleagues, will remember the idea of the Matsui Moment and apply it. God knows such moments have been in short supply.

Bob knew about his disease for some months. He and Doris decided that he was not going to change his life or curb his energy in face of it. Rather, he was going to carry on with what he believed in and what he was dedicated to do. That included finishing his responsibilities with the DCCC and preparing for his crucial role as point man for the Democrats on Social Security. Up to the last, he followed what was going on in the world and worked on a strategy for Social Security.

My family and I got back from our holiday late on the evening of Jan. 1. I opened the mail, and went right for the famous Matsui Christmas card, which was especially delightful this year, with its gorgeous pictures showcasing Bob and Doris' beautiful pride and joy, granddaughter Anna. The next morning, I checked my e-mail and saw the news about his death—and literally fell off my chair.

I am glad that Bob will be replaced by Doris, who, like Lindy Boggs, will come to Congress as a remarkable talent from day one. But I miss my friend and miss even more what he brought to politics, to Congress and to America.

DEFENDING CIVIL LIBERTIES

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 31st, 2005, I held a town meeting at the Vermont Law School on the state of civil liberties in America. Joining me at the meeting